

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please make the following claim substitutions:

1           1. (Currently amended) A method for maintaining a connection between  
2           a server and a client comprising the steps of:  
3           receiving a message;  
4           determining whether to store one or more elements of the message;  
5           storing the one or more elements of the message when the one or more  
6 elements of the message are to be stored;  
7           transmitting the message; and  
8           determining whether the server has failed and when the server has failed,  
9 restoring the server to a pre-failure connection state using the one or more stored  
10 message elements, wherein, after restoring the server, an application of the  
11 client having a connection with the server has not detected anomalies in the  
12 connection.

1           2. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the  
2           steps of:  
3           determining whether to delay the message; and  
4           delaying the transmission of the message until one or more conditions are  
5 satisfied when the message is to be delayed.

1           3. (Original) The method as recited in claim 2, wherein the one or more  
2           conditions comprises successful storage of the one or more elements  
3           of the message.

1           4. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the  
2           steps of:  
3           determining whether to discard the message;  
4           discarding the message when the message is to be discarded; and  
5           wherein the message is not transmitted when the message is to be  
6 discarded.

1           5. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the  
2           steps of:  
3           determining whether to modify the message; and  
4           modifying one or more elements of the message when the message is to  
5           be modified.

1           6. (Previously presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein  
2           the step of restoring the server to the pre-failure connection state using the one  
3           or more stored message elements further comprises periodically transmitting an  
4           outgoing message to maintain the connection until the server is restored.

1           7. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the  
2           step of periodically storing a current state of the server and discarding any stored  
3           elements that are no longer needed to restore the server to the current state.

1           8. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the message is  
2           a protocol segment.

1           9. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the message  
2           conforms to the Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) standard.

1           10. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the one or  
2           more elements are stored in a log server.

1           11. (Original) The method as recited in claim 10, wherein the log server  
2           is remotely located from the server.

1           12. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the one or  
2           more elements are stored in a stable memory in the server.

1           13. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the one or  
2           more elements are stored in a secondary server.

1           14. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including the step of  
2      periodically transmitting, when said server has failed, an outgoing message to  
3      the client to maintain the connection until the server is restored.

1           15. – 29. (Canceled)